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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 603
By Hargrove

A RESOLUTION to designate May 14-20, 2000, as "State Employee Week" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to recognize those estimable organizations that represent their respective constituencies with the utmost in pride, integrity and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Employees Association comprises one such outstanding group of persons, and is truly an organization that proudly represents one of the state's most valuable resources, its state employees; and

WHEREAS, the Association exists to provide a strong, unified voice to advocate the work-related interests of its members, collectively working to protect and improve pay, benefits and working conditions; to ensure a personnel system of fair treatment and justice with an effective appeals process for dispute resolution; to provide access to quality, accessible and affordable health care; and to provide a sound, quality retirement program; and

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WHEREAS, professional state employees make a great difference in the quality of life for all Tennesseans. From newborns to our most elderly, Tennessee citizens are protected, assisted and nurtured by these dedicated professionals who serve them around the clock; and

WHEREAS, the services provided each day by your state employees are endless, but, more importantly, they are necessary; and

WHEREAS, state employees work many long hours and make many personal sacrifices in order to provide essential services to Tennessee's citizens; and

WHEREAS, these state employees have proven their dedication by remaining committed to their jobs through changes of administration, and through both prosperous and lean times; and

WHEREAS, more than sixty thousand men and women in civil service, non-civil service and higher education positions make state service their career, and these peerless public servants are grateful for the august leadership demonstrated by everyone at the Association; and

WHEREAS, the members of TSEA Board of Directors who have generously contributed their time and noteworthy talents are: President Judy Wahlstrom, Past President Tom Spillman, East Vice President Alex Smith, Middle Vice President Ted Thaler, West Vice President Bob Buss, Secretary Nicki Lucas, Treasurer Tom Osborne, the regional directors are Almous Austin, Christine Deener, Philip Morson, Zoyle Jones, Jeannie Bellephant, Paula Shaw, Carey Newberry, Patti Thurman, Willis Colson, Janice Buchanan and Mildred Pickering; and

WHEREAS, the TSEA staff includes: Executive Director Linda McCarty, Assistant Executive Director Jim Tucker, Business Manager Gail Hunter, Communications Coordinator Carol Andrews, Director of Employee Rights Jo Ann Davis-Davis, Staff Attorney David Lyle, Employee Rights Coordinator Ritchie Patton, Employee Benefits Coordinator Gwen Tuttle, Field Representatives Terry Carroll, Terrell Gregory, Lisa Hogue-Moffett, Gary Pinson and Gayle Williams, Administrative Assistant LaTanya Allison McAdoo, Distribution Technician Linda

Darden, Membership Secretary Gayle Robb, Employee Rights Secretary Amy Stauffer and Member Services/Receptionist Amy Brooks; and

WHEREAS, for 26 remarkable years the TSEA has ably represented the needs and concerns of state employees, and it is incumbent upon the members of this legislative body to honor the Association and its members for their exemplary service to Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby designate May 14-20, 2000, as "State Employee Week" in Tennessee, and urge all our citizens to join us in celebrating this event.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a presentation copy of this resolution be provided to the Executive Director of the Tennessee State Employees Association.